

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials
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Dear Amalgam Separator Manufacturer or Distributor,

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) regulation, 6 NYCRR Subpart 374-4, effective May 12, 2006, requires dentists to install dental amalgam separators by May 12, 2008. These separators must be certified according to ISO11143 and perform at 99% efficiency. As an accommodation and public service, the Department has published the names of separator manufacturers/distributors on its website. In order for a separator manufacturer/distributor to be listed on the Department's website, we require that the manufacturer/distributor provide the Department with a valid/current certificate and test report for the separator model offered for sale in New York State. Since certificates are typically considered valid for a five-year period, we will only accept certificates which show an issuance date within the past five years and a valid date that has not expired. A manufacturer/distributor must continue to submit a current/valid certificate to the Department to replace an outdated certificate and to remain on our website.

As stated above, the Department requires that a separator manufacturer also provide the Department with a test report of the separator that the manufacturer/distributor wishes to sell in New York State. The Department will review the test report to ascertain 99% efficiency and will recognize 99% efficiency based on the average of the data for testing under both empty and simulated full conditions (six tests). This overall average will be rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent. Certificates and test reports must be in English as those written in foreign languages are not acceptable to the Department.

As you are well aware, it is mandatory that separators do not exceed the maximum flow rate during operation that a separator was tested at and passed in meeting the ISO standard. All water that comes in contact with dental amalgam, including wastewater from cuspidors and hygienists' operatories (cuspidors/operatories on the same line where dental amalgam is applied, altered, maintained, removed or disposed), must be processed by the separator.

The list of separator manufacturers and distributors has been deleted from our website. In order to be listed on our website in the future, a current/valid certificate and test report must be submitted to the Department. Please send a legible hard copy of the certificate and test report to the attention of Christine Barnes at the address at the top of the page. Facsimiles are not acceptable. If you believe that either the certificate or test report contain confidential or trade secret information, you still must provide these documents to the Department marked as confidential or trade secret.